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PAGE 01 ROME 10202 241117Z
ACTION EUR-01

INFO	LOG-00	AF-01	AID-01	CIAE-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	JUSE-00	I-01	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SCT-03	SNP-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00
	T-00	USIE-00	SNIS-00	NISC-02	PMB-00	DRL-09	G-01
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7164
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 010202

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, MOPS, UN, RW, FR, IT
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PAGE 02 ROME 10202 241117Z
SUBJECT: STRICT PRECONDITIONS MAKE ITALIAN MILITARY
DEPLOYMENT TO RWANDA UNLIKELY - LOGISTIC
SUPPORT POSSIBLE

REF: (A) ROME 9928, (B) USUN 02589, (C) ROME 9142

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT IS RELUCTANT TO SEND
TROOPS TO RWANDA, PM BERLUSCONI SAID JUNE 23 THAT
ITALY IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE THE FRENCH-LED MISSION

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WITH A CONTINGENT OF 450 MEN IF CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET. ITALY'S FIRST REQUIREMENT THAT THE UN APPROVE THE HUMANITARIAN MISSION IN RWANDA (REF A) WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL'S JUNE 22 VOTE (REF B). SPEAKING BEFORE THE SENATE THE SAME DAY, FM MARTINO LAID OUT FURTHER PRECONDITIONS FOR DEPLOYING ITALIAN TROOPS TO RWANDA:

- AGREEMENT BY THE PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT TO THE PRESENCE OF NEUTRAL FORCES;
- A UN REQUEST FOR ITALIAN PARTICIPATION; AND
- EITHER WEU OR NATO COMMAND OF THE MISSION.

AFTER THE JUNE 23 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, MOD PREVITI ANNOUNCED THAT ITALY MAY PROVIDE LOGISTIC AND HUMANITARIAN SUPPORT TO THE FRENCH-LED MISSION. BERLUSCONI PUBLICLY PLEDGED THAT IF THE PRECONDITIONS ARE NOT MET AND ITALY DOES NOT

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PAGE 03 ROME 10202 241117Z
PARTICIPATE IN THE FRENCH-LED MISSION, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN AID OUTSIDE OF RWANDA.

3. MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS BENEDETTO AMARI TOLD POLMIN THAT FEARS OF ITALIAN INVOLVEMENT IN ANOTHER SOMALIA LIE BEHIND THE PRECONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE MISSION. HE NOTED THAT AT THE SAME TIME THE POPE'S APPEALS FOR AN ANSWER TO RWANDA'S HUMANITARIAN CRISIS HAVE ENCOURAGED THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE SOME TYPE OF ACTION.

4. COMMENT: THE CHURCH'S INFLUENCE AND PM BERLUSCONI'S PERSONAL INTEREST (REF C) HAVE ANIMATED ITALY'S DESIRE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO RWANDA. THE STRICT PRECONDITIONS TO A TROOP CONTRIBUTION APPEAR TO VIRTUALLY GUARANTEE THAT THE ITALIAN MILITARY WILL NOT BE DEPLOYED. THESE CONDITIONS DO NOT, HOWEVER, LIMIT ITALY FROM PROVIDING EITHER LOGISTIC SUPPORT FOR THE MISSION OR HUMANITARIAN AID. END COMMENT. BARTHOLOMEW

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